



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Lisa Richardson, 213-361-6980

Email: lrichardson@bos.lacounty.gov

or

Contact: Sharita Moon, 213-974-2222

Email: smoon@bos.lacounty.gov

BOARD APPROVES \$4.4 MILLION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF LENNOX LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY CENTER

It's out with the old and in with the new in the unincorporated area of Lennox. Both the Lennox Library and former Sheriff's Station are getting makeovers. Today the Board of Supervisors authorized \$4.4 million to double the size of the existing 4,500-square-foot library into a 10,000-square-foot state of the art, environmentally efficient facility. The project also will transform part of the old station into a new 7,200-square-foot community service center. The Sheriff's department will still maintain a presence on the eastern portion of the campus in a facility that will also undergo renovations.

The action taken by the Board authorizes the Department of Public Works to go out to bid and to award a construction contract for the project. The Board also authorized a local hiring program for the project, under which 30% of construction workers must come from the surrounding communities or from zip codes throughout the County where there is low median income and chronic unemployment.

"The Lennox Library is the oldest library operated by the County of Los Angeles," said Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas. "This renovation is long overdue. In addition to the expansion of the library, Lennox residents will finally be able to access a variety of government resources right in their own neighborhood."

Aside from providing standard book services to the Lennox community, the new library will include a teen study room, a children's library, a designated area for both teen and children's collections, a homework center, an audiovisual area, nine public access computers, and a community meeting room.

"The Board's decision to invest into the Lennox community will benefit children and families for years to come," the Supervisor said. "Today we are providing an employment opportunity for people in and near Lennox. Tomorrow we will have a new library that is poised to equip our future leaders with the educational tools they need to succeed in school and beyond.

"I look forward to walking into the doors of what will be a terrific new facility."

In May, the Department of Public Works will also begin construction of streetscape improvements along Hawthorne Ave, from the Lennox Library and community service center to the Green Line Station at the 105 freeway. Improvements include street trees, bike lanes, median landscaping, monument signs and a decorative crosswalk at the Hawthorne Ave and Lennox Blvd intersection.

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